

Major Place Names of Spain in Metro Manila

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Abstract

Spanish place names are common in the Philippines due to historical reasons. Here I offer an comprehensive list of stable major place names of Spain in the National Capital Region of the Philippines (Metro Manila) and I analyze the results according to social, geographical, historical and linguistic views. I finally defend that place names are coined and evolve according to historical, social, political and economic reasons. Colonial past, population growth and globalization are the main causes for place names in Metro Manila.

Keywords: Linguistic Colonization; National Capital Region; Philippines; Spanish Toponyms; Toponymy.

Resumen

Los topónimos españoles con comunes en Filipinas por razones históricas. Aquí se da una lista exhaustiva de los topónimos mayores de España estables en la National Capital Region de Filipinas (Gran Manila) y analizo los resultados en función de consideraciones sociales, geográficas, históricas y lingüísticas. Defiendo que los topónimos se acuñan y evolucionan según consideraciones históricas, sociales, políticas y económicas. El pasado colonial, el crecimiento demográfico y la globalización son las principales causas para los topónimos en la Gran Manila.

Palabras clave: Colonización lingüística; Región de la Capital Nacional; topónimos españoles; Filipinas; Toponimia.



1. INTRODUCTION

The National Capital Region of the Philippines, commonly named Metropolitan Manila or Metro Manila, is constituted by 16 cities and one municipality: the city of Manila, Quezon City, Caloocan, Las Piñas, Makati, Malabon, Mandaluyong, Marikina, Muntinlupa, Navotas, Parañaque, Pasay, Pasig, Pateros (municipality), San Juan, Taguig and Valenzuela. In 2015 it had a population of more than 12,8 million people ([Census of Population, 2015](#)) and it comprises more than 20.000 streets ([GoogleMaps, n.d.](#); [Metro Manila Street Guide, 2011](#)).

The Philippines was under Spanish colonial rule between 1565 and 1898. Manila was founded by Miguel López de Legazpi in 1571 over a previous settlement influenced by local peoples, Chinese traders and the Sultanate of Brunei. The Spanish linguistic influence in Manila began in the second half of the 16th century and extended until the Second World War, some decades after the American rule of the country started in 1898. The occupation of the previous settlement and the city growth introduced a vast number of Spanish place names that coexisted with previous local names ([Lesho & Sippola, 2018](#)). After the Spanish control of Manila, some of these names changed in favor of Tagalog or English names, while others remain ([Stolz & Warkne, 2016](#); [Berg & Wuolteenaho, 2009](#)). During the 20th and the 21th centuries, Manila's transformation into a megalopolis also introduced some new Spanish place names, sometimes due to the direct influence of Spanish culture and language, and sometimes due to Spanish loans in Tagalog language.

In general, place names obey to social or geographical reasons. The latter usually describes the territory physical characteristics —e. g. *La Loma* (The Hill), *Estero* (Channel). Social reasons are vast and their classification is more complex. Sometimes they may refer to working activities and guilds —e. g. *arroceros* (rice dealers), *tinajeros* (pot makers)—, to influential people, religious entities, military structures, etc. For Spanish place names in urban areas of the Philippines, [Quilis & Casado-Fresnillo \(2008\)](#) offer the following taxonomy: names of saints, names of Spanish countries and cities, names of historical figures, historic dates, names of people related to Arts of Sciences, relevant people in the Philippine society including their given names and surnames, only given names or only surnames, names of flowers and plants, names of animals, abstract names, names of guilds and working activities, names derived from common names or adjectives, geographical names, poetic names and commercial names (544-550).

Here I offer an exhaustive list of major place names of Spain in Metro Manila and I analyze their current presence attending to social, geographical, historical, and linguistic reasons. For that, I use the information on Spanish place names in Metro Manila obtained from more than 800 informers all over the megalopolis, from my personal fieldwork and from contemporary sources, mainly maps ([GoogleMaps, n.d.](#); [Metro Manila Street Guide, 2011](#)). Data were obtained between 2016 and 2020.

After this introduction, in section 2 I explain the criteria for the list and I offer the list of current major place names of Spain in Metro Manila. In section 3 I offer a social, geographical, historical and linguistic analysis of the list. In section 4 I remark some conclusions.

2. LIST OF NAMES

The following list shows a comprehensive account of the major place names of Spain in Metro Manila by 2020. I consider major toponyms of Spain the names of Spanish provinces, autonomous communities, main islands, all their capitals and the whole country —i. e. *España*.

It must be noted that by the end of the Spanish rule in the Philippines, the metropolis administrative division was slightly different, and that is reflected in these place names as I will explain in the conclusions. Many times place names do not directly correspond to a place in Spain but to family names ([Medina 1992](#)). In order to offer complete information, I also consider and list them, indicating they are eponyms at the end of the item line.

On the other hand, I include names having a print in Manila's territory and society and I ignore names that are not stable. I consider steady names those that have been established before the battle of Manila in 1945 or those occupying at least one block or a considerable building size. Under these criteria, I ignore recent private small entities like non-historical minor stores. I list unclear cases for the sake of the research ([Medina 1992](#)).

Each item is followed by its kind of place names —e. g. street, building, etc.—, then by its geographical coordinates and finally by its translation into English when applicable. At the beginning of the item line I add the original graphic solution but first I write the Spanish normative one between square brackets when they do not coincide, which usually happens with diacritical marks, ñ, writing of the letters *c* and *z* as *s*, and confusion between *b* and *v* ([Quilis & Casado-Fresnillo 2008: 551](#)). It also occurs for noun phrases using a place name in Spain, in which I remark such place name —e. g. [Andalucía] Caras de Andalucia— and for place names in Spain written in Catalan or English —e. g. [Sevilla] Seville. At the end of the item line I sometimes add some clarifications or extra information between square brackets, like the district or area where it is found in the case such area comprises a set of place names of Spain.

2.1. List

Alicante. Street. 14.379894, 121.038821 [Tunasan Muntinlupa]
 Alicante. Street. 14.690691, 121.109841 [Bagong Silangan Quezon City]
 Alicante Tower. Building. 14.636526, 121.099631
 [Andalucía] Andalucia. Basketball Court. 14.616034, 120.986417. Andalusia Basketball Court [region]
 [Andalucía] Andalucia. Street. Alfonso Mendoza. 14.61072, 120.98628. In disuse
 [Andalucía] Caras de Andalucia. Residential Area. 14.671297, 121.044539. Faces of Andalusia
 [Aragón] Aragon. Street. 14.379324, 121.038669 [Tunasan Muntinlupa]
 [Aragón] Aragon. Street. 14.5277325, 120.9975316
 [Aragón] Aragon. Street. 14.554523, 121.003447 [International Area]
 [Aragón] Aragon. Street. 14.579081, 121.006222. Eponym
 [Aragón] Aragon. Street. 14.616696, 120.987501 [Sampaloc]
 [Aragón] Aragon. Street. 14.643082, 121.020557. Eponym
 [Aragón] C. Aragon. Street. 14.569513, 120.993402. Eponym
 [Aragón] Villa Aragon. Street. 14.570734, 120.996507. Aragon Villa
 Asturias. Street. 14.612008, 120.987453 [Sampaloc]
 [Asturias] Salud Asturias. 14.439919, 120.992185. Eponym: Health Asturias
 [Asturias] Villa Maria de Asturias. Building. 14.612125, 120.987472. Maria of Asturias Town, Maria of Asturias Villa [Sampaloc]
 [Ávila] Avila Tower. Building. 14.602073, 121.089292

[Ávila] Colegio de Santa Teresa de Avila. Educational Building. 14.7333, 121.0511. Saint Teresa of Avila College

[Ávila] Saint Teresa of Avila. Building. 14.620448, 121.041541. Saint Teresa of Avila

[Ávila] Saint Theresa de Avila School. Educational Building. 14.466883, 121.012784. Saint Teresa of Avila

[Ávila] Santa Teresa de Avila Chapel. Religious Building. Saint Teresa of Avila Chapel. 14.565587, 121.060292. Saint Teresa of Avila College

[Ávila] Santa Teresa of Avila Academy. Educational Building. 14.754833, 121.008836. Saint Teresa of Avila Academy

[Ávila] Santa Ana Avila Corporation. Building. 14.658326, 120.971097. Saint Ana Avila Corporation

[Badajoz] Badajos. Street. 14.378336, 121.039105 [Tunasan Muntinlupa]

[Badajoz] Badajos. Street. 14.562946, 121.029103

[Badajoz] Badajos. Street. 14.753546, 121.001416 [Caloocan]

Barcelona. Extension. 14.610523, 120.964283 [Tondo: Historical Place Name]

Barcelona. Street. 14.378128, 121.038354 [Tunasan Muntinlupa]

Barcelona. Street. 14.46734, 121.026509 [San Antonio Parañaque]

Barcelona. Street. 14.46595, 121.007759 [International Area]

Barcelona. Street. 14.49846, 121.020677 [International Area]

Barcelona. Street. 14.595026, 121.034644 [probably an eponym]

Barcelona. Street. 14.59964, 120.96775 [San Nicolás: Historical Place Name]

Barcelona. Street. 14.669734, 121.109461 [Nangka Marikina]

Barcelona. Street. 14.678307, 121.09687. [International Area]

Barcelona. Street. 14.691648, 121.110235 [Bagong Silangan Quezon City]

Barcelona. Street. 14.723571, 120.975054 [International Area]

Barcelona. Street. 14.754112, 121.006893 [Caloocan]

[Barcelona] Barcelona Tower - Marquinton Residence. Building. 14.636432, 121.100468

[Barcelona] Barcelona Townhomes. Residential Area. 14.521661, 121.078567

[Barcelona] Tipas Barcelona. Residential Area. 14.538121, 121.083831

Bilbao. Street. 14.60541, 120.967111 [Tondo: Historical Place Name]

Burgos. Building. 14.46297, 120.964438

Burgos. Street. 14.489732, 121.048243. Eponym

Burgos. Street. 14.551759, 121.000028. Eponym

Burgos. Street. 14.586211, 120.997923. Eponym

Burgos. Street. 14.645731, 121.107486. Eponym

Burgos. Street. 14.667434, 120.948585. Eponym

Burgos. Street. 14.697467, 120.996733. Eponym

[Burgos] Jose Burgos. Street. 14.560735, 121.060126. Eponym

[Burgos] Padre Burgos Avenue. Avenue. Calle Bagumbayan [old name], Paseo de las Aluadas [old name]. 14.585339, 120.979351. Father Burgos Avenue

[Burgos] Padre Burgos Circle. Roundabout. Burgos Circle. 14.552722; 121.044361. Father Burgos Circle

[Burgos] Padre Burgos Elementary School. Educational Building. 14.6034, 121.0106. Father Burgos Elementary School

[Burgos] Padre Burgos. Street. 14.458124, 120.971331. Father Burgos

[Burgos] Padre Burgos. Street. 14.497459, 120.990306. Father Burgos

[Burgos] Padre Burgos. Street. 14.564624, 121.03108. Father Burgos

[Burgos] Padre Burgos. Street. 14.637205, 121.095496. Father Burgos

[Burgos] Padre Burgos. Street. 14.651159, 120.973947. Father Burgos

[Cáceres] Caceres. Street. 14.562882, 121.029605

[Cádiz] Cadiz. Street. 14.437341, 121.029205. [Philippine town]

[Cádiz] Cadiz. Street. 14.441331, 121.044323 [Cupang Muntinlupa]

[Cádiz] Cadiz. Street. 14.466675, 121.029529 [San Antonio Parañaque]

[Cádiz] Cadiz. Street. 14.751706, 121.002553 [Caloocan]

[Canarias] Canary. Street. 14.403137, 121.037127 [International Area]

[Castellón] Castellon. Street. 14.691138, 121.110029 [Bagong Silangan Quezon City]

Castillas. Street. 14.6107042, 121.0355455. Castilias [Valencia Quezon City]

[Castilla] Dos Castillas. Street. 14.608351, 121.032846. Two Castilias

[Castilla] Dos Castillas. Street. Yeyeng. 14.608785, 120.99482. Two Castilias [Sampaloc]

[Castilla] One Castilla Place. Building. 14.610555, 121.035077. One Castilia Place [Valencia Quezon City]

[Cataluña] Cataluna. Street. Tolentino. 14.607813, 120.987374. In disuse [Sampaloc]

[Cataluna] Lotus de Cataluna. Building. 14.607712, 120.987294. Lotus of Catalonia [Sampaloc]

Compostela. Street. 14.692792, 121.110107 [Bagong Silangan Quezon City]

[Córdoba] Cordoba. House. 14.434474, 121.021769

[Córdoba] Cordova. Street. 14.405359, 121.039709 [International Area]

[Córdoba] Cordova. Street. 14.440324, 121.041467 [Cupang Muntinlupa]

[Córdoba] Cordova. Street. 14.692518, 121.110126 [Bagong Silangan Quezon City]

[Córdoba] Cordova. Tower. 14.636298, 121.101034

[Córdoba] The Cordova. Building. 14.558579, 121.022133

Cuenca. Park. 14.392575, 121.016623 [Philippine Town]

Cuenca. Street. 14.39126, 121.016903 [Philippine Town]

Cuenca. Street. 14.54647, 120.995296. Eponym

Cuenca. Street. 14.556875, 121.001389. Eponym

España. Boulevard. 14.611711, 120.994834. Spain [Sampaloc]

[España] España Grand Residences Tower 1. Building. 14.606501, 120.988941. Spain Grand Residences Tower 1

[España] España Railway Station. Station. 14.6123268, 120.9969148. Spain Railway Station

[España] España Tower. Building. 14.616625, 120.999907. Spain Tower

[España] Parque España. Building. 14.418637, 121.034949. Spain Park

[España] Plaza de España. Square. Plaza España, Plaza de los Mártires de la Integridad de la Patria [old name]. 14.59354, 120.974487. Spain Square

[España] Villa Espana Subdivision. Residential Area. 14.621892, 121.016656. Spain Town Subdivision, Spain Villa Subdivision
 Extremadura. Street. 14.606432, 120.994798 [Sampaloc]
 Galicia. Street. 14.606502, 120.990656 [Sampaloc]
 [Galicia] De Galicia. Street. 14.649625, 120.95401. De Galicia [eponym: Of Galicia]
 [Galicia] De Galicia. Street. M. De Galicia. 14.695547, 120.981311. De Galicia [eponym: Of Galicia]
 Gerona. Street. 14.616926, 120.969604. Eponym
 [Gerona] Girona. Street. 14.46737, 121.029254 [San Antonio Parañaque]
 Granada. Building. 14.531054, 121.0729672
 Granada. Street. 14.376895, 121.038649 [Tunasan Muntinlupa]
 Granada. Street. 14.609354, 121.037303 [Valencia]
 Granada. Street. 14.754137, 121.005433 [Caloocan]
 Guadalajara. Court. 14.491657, 121.022 [International Area: probably the Mexican city]
 Guadalajara. Street. 14.376335, 121.038855 [Tunasan Muntinlupa]
 Guadalajara. Park. 14.4916, 121.0222. [International Area: probably the Mexican city]
 Huelva. Street. 14.752271, 121.003762 [Caloocan]
 Ibiza Tower. Building. 14.6346, 121.106458
 [Ibiza] Corte Ibiza. Street. 14.691441, 121.110088. Ibiza Country House, Ibiza Court [Bagong Silangan Quezon City]
 La Mancha. Street. 14.643911, 121.118889 [International Area]
 La Mancha. Residential Area. 14.567139, 121.042424
 [Lérida] Lerida. Street. 14.750982, 121.003742 [Caloocan]
 [Lérida] Lleida Tower. Building. 14.602267, 121.088314 [Circulo Verde]
 [Lugo] Marcela Marcelo-Lugo. Historical Marker, Monument and Historical Marker. 14.534185, 121.009181. Eponym
 Madrid. Extension. 14.611766, 120.964398 [Tondo: Historical Place Name]
 Madrid. Street. 14.433786, 120.988333 [Talon Dos Las Piñas]
 Madrid. Street. 14.442272, 121.043191 [Cupang Muntinlupa]
 Madrid. Street. 14.451679, 121.002094 [International Area]
 Madrid. Street. 14.500525, 121.020387 [International Area]
 Madrid. Street. 14.599266, 120.968907 [San Nicolás: Historical Place Name]
 Madrid. Street. 14.605809, 121.101737 [International Area]
 Madrid. Street. 14.609103, 120.96462 [Tondo: Historical Place Name]
 Madrid. Street. 14.676157, 121.104702 [International Area]
 Madrid. Street. 14.722936, 121.010131 [International Area]
 Madrid Executive Homes. Residential Area. 14.60462, 121.101254
 [Málaga] Malaga. Street. 14.375728, 121.038783 [Tunasan Muntinlupa]
 [Málaga] Malaga. Street. 14.405001, 121.038102 [International Area]
 Mallorca. Street. 14.7529364, 121.0024967 [Caloocan]
 [Mallorca] Majorca Residences. Building. 14.602007, 121.087946 [Circulo Verde]

[Mérida] Camella Merida. Residential Area. 14.4337, 120.9868. Camella Merida [eponym: Camellia. Merida is a city]
Murcia. Street. 14.375172, 121.038836 [Tunasan Muntinlupa]
Navarra. Street. 14.6114, 120.987 [Sampaloc]
Orense. Street. 14.56116, 121.044662 [probably an eponym]
[Pamplona] Pamplona Dos. Barangay. 14.4473519, 120.9747258. Pamplona Two
[Pamplona] Pamplona Elementary School Central. Educational Building. 14.458118, 120.970202. Pamplona Elementary School Central
[Pamplona] Pamplona Tres. Barangay. 14.4519847, 120.9846388. Pamplona Three
[Pamplona] Pamplona Uno. Barangay. 14.4581077, 120.9718576. Pamplona One
[Pamplona] Iglesia Ni Cristo Lokal Ng Pamplona. Religious Building. 14.459312, 120.969617. Church of Christ Locale of Pamplona
Pontevedra. Street. 14.467837, 121.026985 [San Antonio Parañaque]
Pontevedra. Street. 14.692652, 121.109715 [Bagong Silangan Quezon City]
[Rioja] Corte Rioja. Street. 14.691875, 121.110228. Rioja Country House, Rioja Court [Bagong Silangan Quezon City]
Salamanca. Street. 14.565938, 121.029. Eponym
Salamanca. Street. 14.670074, 121.109434 [Nangka Marikina]
Salamanca. Street. 14.754886, 121.005271 [Caloocan]
[Salamanca] Plaza Salamanca. Square. Plaza Olivia Salamanca. 14.5832, 120.984. Eponym
Santander. Street. 14.374364, 121.039065 [Tunasan Muntinlupa]
Santander. Street. 14.61068, 120.98662 [Sampaloc]
Santander. Street. 14.620338, 121.03663
Segovia. Street. 14.373524, 121.039351 [Tunasan Muntinlupa]
Segovia. Street. 14.691284, 121.11029 [Bagong Silangan Quezon City]
Segovia. Street. 14.755379, 121.005191 [Caloocan]
[Segovia] Calle Segovia. Street. 14.426075, 120.9945 [Talon Dos Las Piñas (ii)]
Sevilla. Bridge. 14.593973, 121.026164 [probably an eponym]
Sevilla. Extension. 14.61229, 120.963957 [Tondo: Historical Place Name]
Sevilla. Street. 14.434304, 120.987156 [Talon Dos Las Piñas]
Sevilla. Street. 14.59888, 120.96769 [San Nicolás: Historical Place Name]
Sevilla. Street. 14.609418, 120.964178 [Tondo: Historical Place Name]
Sevilla. Street. 14.679668, 121.035428. Eponym
Sevilla. Street. 14.692162, 121.110219 [Bagong Silangan Quezon City]
[Sevilla] Camella Seville. Residential Area. 14.750232, 121.003143
[Sevilla] Father Sevilla. Boulevard. 14.60364, 121.02657
[Sevilla] Father Sevilla. Boulevard. 14.657004, 120.951181
[Sevilla] Padre Sevilla. Street. 14.645893, 120.980022. Eponym: Father Seville
[Sevilla] Seville. Street. 14.445162, 121.006402 [International Area]
[Sevilla] Seville Residences. Building. 14.60292, 121.088755 [Circulo Verde]
[Sevilla] Seville Subdivision. Residential Area. 14.750257, 121.0031036 [Caloocan]

[Sevilla] Sitio Seville. Residential Area. 14.717343, 121.060513
 Soria. Street. 14.553226, 121.016555. Eponym
 Tarragona. Street. 14.753815, 121.005404 [Caloocan]
 Toledo. Street. 14.37289, 121.039244 [Tunasan Muntinlupa]
 Toledo. Street. 14.428392, 121.037031 [Philippine Town]
 Toledo. Street. 14.49538, 121.017505 [International Area]
 Toledo. Street. 14.560124, 121.023601
 Toledo. Street. 14.751529, 121.005078 [probably an eponym]
 [Teruel] A. Teruel. Street. 14.51304, 121.056813. Eponym
 Valencia. Barangay. 14.6111, 121.0357 [Valencia]
 Valencia. Drive. 14.460806, 120.987879. Eponym
 Valencia. Street. 14.433242, 120.987735. [Talon Dos Las Piñas]
 Valencia. Street. 14.466016, 121.026667 [San Antonio Parañaque]
 Valencia. Street. 14.466665, 121.042878. Eponym
 Valencia. Street. 14.599388, 121.0018856
 Valencia. Street. 14.6074467, 120.9943357 [Sampaloc]
 Valencia. Street. 14.641291, 121.013048 [probably an eponym]
 Valencia. Street. 14.673872, 121.072016. Eponym
 Valencia. Street. 14.738911, 121.056079. Eponym
 Valencia. Street. 14.754647, 121.005436 [Caloocan]
 [Valencia] Calle Valencia. Street. 14.425414, 120.992172. Valencia Street [Talon Dos Las Piñas (ii)]
 [Valencia] Estero de Valencia. Estuary. 14.601646, 121.002592. Valencia Estuary
 [Valencia] Valencia Badminton Center. Sports Center. 14.611061, 121.03705. Valencia Badminton Center [Valencia]
 [Valencia] Valencia Hills. Buildings, Residential Area. 14.61054, 121.033152. Valencia Hills [Valencia]
 [Valencia] Valencia Homes. Residential Area. 14.611094, 121.033748. Valencia Homes [Valencia]
 [Vizcaya] Nueva Vizcaya. Street. 14.660121, 121.03004. Philippine Province: New Vizcaya
 [Vizcaya] Vizcaya. 14.635556, 120.979508
 Zamora. Street. 14.457612, 120.970199. Eponym
 Zamora. Street. 14.560664, 121.051363. Eponym
 Zamora. Street. 14.576551, 121.01066. [probably an eponym]
 Zamora. Street. 14.639621, 121.015174. Eponym
 Zamora. Street. 14.642569, 121.023052. Eponym
 Zamora. Street. 14.656428, 121.109313. Eponym
 Zamora. Street. 14.697451, 120.997217. Eponym
 Zamora. Street. 14.706402, 121.054141. Eponym
 [Zamora] Cielito Zamora High School. Educational building. 14.749043, 121.049336.
 Eponym: Little Sky Zamora

[Zamora] Cielito Zamora Memorial School. Educational Building. 14.748621, 121.049258.
Eponym: Little Sky Zamora

[Zamora] East Zamora. Street. 14.589109, 121.002630. Eponym

[Zamora] Nicolas Zamora. Street. 14.612924, 120.968894. Eponym

[Zamora] Padre Jacinto Zamora. Bridge. Nagtahan Link Road. 14.594035, 121.012241.
Eponym: Father Jacinto Zamora

[Zamora] Padre Zamora Elementary School. Educational Building. 14.54503, 121.002152.
Eponym: Father Zamora Elementary School

[Zamora] Padre Zamora. Street. 14.528117, 121.053773. Eponym: Father Zamora

[Zamora] Padre Zamora. Street. 14.542569, 121.001379. Eponym: Father Zamora

[Zamora] Padre Zamora. Street. 14.593576, 121.039635. Eponym: Father Zamora

[Zamora] Padre Zamora. Street. 14.619335, 121.062947. Eponym: Father Zamora

[Zamora] Padre Zamora. Street. 14.634676, 121.09205. Eponym: Father Zamora

[Zamora] Padre Zamora. Street. 14.647668, 120.973874. Eponym: Father Zamora

[Zamora] Plaza Zamora. Square. 14.5910079, 121.0029171. Zamora Square

[Zamora] West Zamora. Street. 14.584918, 121.000016

[Zamora] Zamora Oval. Roundabout. 14.555112, 121.042802. Eponym: Zamora

Zaragoza. Building. 14.553098, 121.018251

Zaragoza. Street. 14.433538, 120.987826 [Talon Dos Las Piñas]

Zaragoza. Street. 14.549151, 121.018618. Eponym

Zaragoza. Street. 14.602605, 120.962178 [sometimes referred as Zaragosa]

[Zaragoza] Calle Zaragoza. Street. 14.425661, 120.993676. Saragossa Street [Talon Dos Las Piñas (ii)]

[Zaragoza] Zaragoza Gate. Port Gate. 14.602548, 120.961137

3. ANALYSIS

3.1. Overview

Some autonomous communities, provinces, islands and capitals of Spain do not appear in the list: Álava, Albacete, Almería, Baleares, Cantabria, Ceuta, Ciudad Real, Coruña, Fuerteventura, Gomera, Guipúzcoa, Huesca, Jaén, Hierro, Lanzarote, León, Logroño, Melilla, Oviedo, País Vasco, Palencia, Palma, Palmas, San Sebastián, Tenerife, Valladolid, Vitoria, Menorca.

It must be noted that the administrative division of Spain by the time of the end of the Spanish rule in the Philippines was slightly different. That can explain the absence of some of the previous names, like Cantabria, País Vasco or its basque name, Euskadi. For the latter, we do not find its common name at that time, Vascongadas. The different Spanish administrative division also explains the place names Dos Castillas and Castilla instead of Castilla-La Mancha and Castilla y León, although we do find La Mancha owing to Don Quixote of La Mancha.

On the other hand, most of the previous ignored names can be found in private small recent entities —e. g. stores— of Metro Manila, mainly associated to family names, as well as in other cities, towns and streets of the rest of the Philippines. Sometimes they are found in

the bordering provinces of Bulacan, Rizal, Cavite and Laguna, which constitute the National Capital Region urban extension.

There are many place names called Hierro, León, Palma and Palmas. However, they do not refer to the Spanish place names but to the common nouns *Iron*, *Lion*, *Palm Tree(s)*, or to family names with no link with the previous Spanish cities, provinces and islands. San Sebastián is found five times in Metro Manila but referring to the saint and not to the city. There are also six Granada referring to *Pomegranate* and not to the Spanish city and many *Canary* pointing to the bird and not to the islands. In the case of Palmas, there is a Paseo de las Palmas in Tunasan Muntinlupa (14.3768, 121.0376), an area of major place names of Spain, but it connects with Paseo de las Acacias (*Promenade of the Acacias*). It is not clear if Palmas refer to the Spanish insular city or to the palm tree. I requested such information to the local authorities but they did not have it.

Some of the names do not directly point to the major toponyms of Spain but to saints related to those places —e.g. [Ávila] Santa Teresa de Ávila— or to other places in the Philippines or in the world that took their names from Spanish places: Cadiz [Cádiz], Cuenca and Toledo in the Philippines; Guadalajara in México. We also find Spanish major toponyms of other countries —e. g. Buenos Aires— and other Spanished toponyms —e. g. Tetuán.

Finally, eponyms are isolated while place names directly referring to major toponyms in Spain are usually bound together. Among the eponyms, historical figures like Padre Zamora and Padre Burgos are preeminent.

3.2. Geographical distribution

Manila's place names directly pointing to major toponyms in Spain are usually grouped in specific districts and neighborhoods: Bagong Silangan Quezon City, Caloocan, Circulo Verde —[Círculo Verde] a recent condominium or set of buildings—, Cupang Muntinlupa, Nangka Marikina, Tunasan Muntinlupa, Sampaloc, San Antonio Parañaque, Talon Dos Las Piñas —two different areas—, Valencia.

Most of these areas have been recently built and none of them is historical. For those cases, major place names in Spain are the fashion to coin these new place names, as well as there are some French names —e.g. Almanza Dos Las Piñas (14.3984, 121)— or Italian names —e.g. Pulang Lupa Dos Las Piñas (14.4577, 120.99)— for other recently built areas. Spanish new place names are more numerous than other international languages place names, although most of the areas established in the last decades in Metro Manila have Tagalog or English names.

Some areas have adopted place names of international popular cities, regions and countries with no classification in terms of nationality. I call them *International Areas*. The most popular toponyms of Spain in these zones are Madrid and Barcelona, but we can also find Aragon, Canary, Cordova, Guadalajara (Mexican city), La Mancha, Malaga, Seville and Toledo.

Isolated major toponyms of Spain in Metro Manila usually refer to eponyms, although there are some exceptions, like Caceres [Cáceres] and Badajoz [Badajos] in Poblacion Makati.

3.3. Historical comment

Some of the names are already listed in Manila's map of 1898 ([De Gamoneda, 1898](#)). Barcelona, Madrid and Sevilla are still found in the district of San Nicolás, while Bilbao is still found in Tondo. Barcelona, Madrid and Sevilla are also found in Tondo as natural extensions of

the former streets in San Nicolás. They do not appear in 1898's map as that area was still covered by Manila Bay's waters, but when Tondo gained ground and extended into the sea, the new streets inherited San Nicolas street names as extensions. There is also Calle Tetuan [Tetuán] in Santa Cruz next to Binondo, which is still in use. For all these cases, the defining word Calle has changed into *Street*.

It must be noted that some new major toponyms of Spain in Metro Manila not listed in 1898's map appear in Manila's map of 1920 (Bach, 1920), in the area of Sampaloc. Most of these names are preserved although Andalucia [Andalucía] and Cataluña have changed in the last years. The former street is now officially called Alfonso Mendoza while the latter is called Tolentino. Both Andalucia [Andalucía] and Cataluña place names are still recognized in some public facilities —[Andalucía] Andalucia Court—, buildings —[Cataluña] Lotus de Cataluna—, stores and even in road signals, but they are in disuse. In any case, substitution of major toponyms of Spain in Metro Manila is not as common as substitution of place names referring to historical and political personalities.

3.4. Linguistic notes

Most of the place names referring to major Spanish place names in Metro Manila are written in Spanish language. There are also Catalan names for Girona, Lleida and Majorca —both Lleida and Majorca correspond to new buildings inside Circulo Verde [Círculo Verde] condominium. English names pointing to place names in Spain can be found in *Canary* and *Seville*. Most of the *Canary* place names refer to the bird and not to the islands, although the case listed here refers to the latter and it is found in an international area (14.4031, 121.0371). The English word *Seville* is found in recently built residential areas and in one international area.

Diacritical marks are eluded and most of the times ñ is too —e. g. Lotus de Cataluna. This is common for all Spanish place names in the Philippines, where accents are not written and there is a vacillation between ñ and *n* —e. g. niño/nino, doña/dona. In the case of España it preserves ñ except for Villa Espana Subdivision. Sometimes letters *c* and *z* are written as *s* —Badajos; Zaragoza and Barselona in some private recent entities or public transportation signals. In general, major toponyms of Spain in Metro Manila tend to better preserve original Spanish graphic solutions than other place names.

Finally, the listed items use English descriptives, mainly *Street*. That is the common solution in Manila's place names, although sometimes we can find Tagalized Spanish formula like Kalye or even the original Spanish words. In this sense, the second area in Talon Dos Las Piñas comprises Calle Segovia, Calle Valencia and Calle Zaragoza.

4. CONCLUSION

Places are named according to geographical and social reasons. All over the world, many place names have been preserved for centuries and even millennia, printing the linguistic and social history of the territory.

Since the end of the Spanish rule in the Philippines in 1898, the country and its capital Manila have been in continuous social and urban change. The city's population has rapidly grown and nowadays Manila is one of the largest urban agglomerations in the world. Some of the former Spanish place names are preserved while others are not. Many new districts have appeared, coined with Tagalog and English names, and to a lesser extent with other international names with a preponderance of Spanish language.

The evolution of Manila's place names reflects its historical and political development and its identity and social tensions in a past marked by colonial rulers and military powers, and a present marked by globalization and economic powers. The presence and evolution of major place names of Spain in Manila sheds some light on the matter and shows some patterns: the presence of Spanish language in historical places, the preponderance of Tagalog and English solutions —sometimes Tagalized Spanish words— for new geographical entities and the introduction of names coming from other languages due to globalization and fashions, in which the Spanish language is preeminent.

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